VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the Claims

Cancel claims 1-3.

[1. A method of analyzing the wavefront of a light beam, comprising:

(a) placing a two-dimensional diffraction grating with rectangular meshing in a plane which is perpendicular to said light beam and which is optically conjugated with a plane of analysis of the wavefront, thereby multiplying an intensity function by a phase function,

(1) said intensity function defining a rectangular meshing of sub-pupils in said two-dimensional grating transmitting the light from said light beam to form a plurality of secondary beams disposed in accordance with said rectangular meshing, and

(2) said phase function introducing a phase shift between two adjacent secondary beams such that said two adjacent secondary beams are in phase opposition, and

(b) creating and observing an image formed by interference between said secondary beams in a plane located at a predetermined distance from said perpendicular plane, deformations in said image being related to the slopes of the analyzed wavefront.

2. The method claimed in claim 1 wherein each sub-pupil has an area close to half the area of an elementary mesh of said rectangular meshing.

3. The method claimed in claim 1 wherein said meshing defined by said intensity function is a square meshing.]